

**Department of Homeland Security
Information Analysis and Infrastructure
Protection
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
for 24 April 2003**

Current Nationwide
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland)
www.whitehouse.gov/homeland

Daily Overview

- The Associated Press reports sodium cyanide spilled onto Interstate 84 on Tuesday after an accident involving two trucks near Danbury, CT, forcing authorities to close both sides of the highway and call in hazardous material response crews. (See item [3](#))
- The Los Angeles Times reports in another sign of heightened federal concern about port security, Sen. Barbara Boxer toured the Port of Los Angeles on Tuesday and promised to call for improved technology to guard against potential terrorism. (See item [7](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS03-014: Cumulative Patch for Outlook Express (Critical)," and a patch is available at the Microsoft website. (See item [22](#))
- Microsoft has released "Security Bulletin MS03-015: Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer (Critical)," and a patch is available at the Microsoft website. (See item [23](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: [Physical](#): Elevated, [Cyber](#): Elevated

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://esisac.com>]

1. *April 23, Associated Press* — Oil from Iraq fields began flowing again. Crude oil from Iraq's southern fields began flowing again through pipelines Wednesday, the first time since the start of the war, U.S. officials said. Coalition forces, aided by Iraqi oil workers, fired up a gas-oil separation plant that sent oil to a pumping station and storage tank in Zubayr, outside the key southern city of Basra. The oil will eventually be used domestically and is not for export. The country's northern oil fields around Kirkuk remain out of production.

Officials had planned to pump the oil to a refinery, but unexploded ordnance near the pipeline made that unfeasible. Coalition troops will work to clear the ordnance and hope to have oil flowing into the refinery by Saturday. **Within six to 15 weeks, Iraq's southern Rumeila oil field, one of the country's largest, could be producing up to 1.1 million barrels a day.** Workers said production at Rumeila had been shut off just before the start of the war on March 20. There are just more than 1,000 oil wells in the Rumeila field, feeding 34 gas-oil separation plants.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A21519-2003Apr 23.html>

2. *April 22, Washington Post* — **Russian merger creates a new oil giant. Russia's biggest oil company, Yukos, today announced a deal to buy another major Russian oil firm, Sibneft, a move they said would create the fourth-largest private oil producer in the world.** Yukos said the new company would produce 2.3 million barrels of crude oil a day, an amount surpassed only by British Petroleum PLC, Exxon Mobil Corp. and Royal Dutch/Shell Group. If measured by the volume of proven oil reserves it controls in the ground, the new company would rank higher than any other private oil company. Yukos agreed to pay Sibneft's majority shareholders \$3 billion for an initial one-fifth stake in the combined company and to swap shares in the new company for the remainder of their holdings, according to a joint statement from the companies. **The merger is the largest in Russia's 11-year history of market capitalism and the second major oil deal in Russia in 10 weeks. In February, British Petroleum bought half of the country's third-largest oil company, Tyumen, for \$6.75 billion.** Oil analysts said the mergers are part of a general restructuring of Russia's fast-growing oil industry. **Russia now rivals Saudi Arabia as the world's biggest oil producer and is planning new pipelines and seeking new export markets.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A17375-2003Apr 22.html>

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Chemical Sector

3. *April 23, Associated Press* — **Sodium cyanide spill forces shutdown of Connecticut Interstate. Sodium cyanide spilled onto Interstate 84 on Tuesday after an accident involving two trucks near Exit 7 in Danbury, CT, forcing authorities to close both sides of the highway and call in hazardous material response crews, state police said.** Traffic was backed up for several miles in both directions following the accident, which occurred on the eastbound side of the highway at rush hour at 5 p.m. **Four barrels of the liquid cyanide solution tipped over when the tractor-trailer carrying them rear-ended another truck, The News-Times of Danbury reported. It was not immediately clear what caused the accident.** An undetermined amount of the chemical leaked out of the truck and flowed off the highway into Padanaram Brook, a small stream that flows into the Still River. The chemical killed fish in the brook. Joe Mead, environmental compliance officer with Danbury's Health Department, said the extent of the fish kill would not be known until Wednesday. City firefighters pumped water from hydrants into the brook to dilute and disperse the chemical and lessen its impact on the river, Mead said. **There were no human injuries, but at least seven people were taken to Danbury Hospital as a precaution and were treated and released.** They included three state troopers and two children who were playing in the nearby stream, the newspaper reported.

Source: http://www.stamfordadvocate.com/news/local/state/hc-23054328_apds.m0444.bc-ct--highapr23.0.2592600.story?coll=hc-headlines-local-wire

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

4. *April 23, Washington Post* — **Rumsfeld urges overhaul of Pentagon civil service.** Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld wants to implement sweeping changes in the way civilian employees are hired, paid and promoted in the Defense Department. **Pentagon officials recently sent a 205-page bill to Capitol Hill detailing a proposed overhaul of the civil service system that would replace guaranteed annual raises for 470,000 workers with a pay-for-performance plan. It also would shift as many as 320,000 military members out of jobs that could be done by civilians, make it easier for the Defense Department to contract out work to the private sector and allow managers to hire and transfer employees without time-consuming competitions.** Pentagon officials said the changes are necessary to shape the Defense Department into a modern, responsive bureaucracy capable of efficiently carrying out the government's most important mission, protecting its citizens.
Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A17789-2003Apr 22.html>
5. *April 23, Los Angeles Times* — **After 'decline,' U.S. again capable of making nuclear arms.** The United States has regained the capability to make nuclear weapons for the first time in 14 years and has restarted production of plutonium parts for bombs, the Energy Department said Tuesday. The announcement marks an important symbolic and operational milestone in rebuilding the nation's nuclear weapons complex. **"Since 1989 until today, we were the only nuclear power in the world that could not make a pit," said Linton Brooks, administrator of the National Nuclear Security Administration, the Energy Department agency that runs the weapons production complex. A pit is a hollow sphere made of plutonium, surrounded by conventional explosives that detonate and start fission as the sphere implodes.** Under a Bush administration plan, the Energy Department is beginning limited production of plutonium parts for the stockpile of nuclear weapons and will begin laying plans for a new factory that could produce components for hundreds of weapons each year.
Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-bomb23a-pr23.1.7004581.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dnation>
6. *April 23, U.S. Department of Defense* — **National Guard and Reserve mobilized as of April 23, 2003.** This week the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps each announce an increase of reservists on active duty in support of the partial mobilization. The Air Force announces a decrease. The net collective result is 587 more reservists than last week. The total number of reserve personnel currently on active duty in support of the partial mobilization for the Army National Guard and Army Reserve is 149,141; Naval Reserve 11,938; Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, 37,179; Marine Corps Reserve, 21,115; and the Coast Guard Reserve, 4,417. **This brings the total Reserve and National Guard on active duty to 223,790 including both units and individual augmentees.**
Source: http://www.defenselink.mil/news/Apr2003/b04232003_bt265-03.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

Nothing to report.

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Transportation Sector

7. *April 23, Los Angeles Times* — **Improved security needed at U.S. ports, Boxer says.** In another sign of heightened federal concern about port security, Sen. Barbara Boxer toured the Port of Los Angeles on Tuesday and promised to call for improved technology to guard against potential terrorism. **Boxer (D-CA) urged more screening of the thousands of cargo containers that arrive at the port each day, saying that guarding U.S. ports against terrorism is essential for the nation's safety and the well-being of the economy.** Some shippers have expressed concern about increased screening of cargo, warning that it could slow the movement of goods when stores and factories depend on speedy deliveries. A number of senators and congressional representatives have proposed measures to protect port trade. California's other Democratic senator, Dianne Feinstein, introduced her own bill earlier this year. **However, that concern has not yet translated into major federal funding of new security measures at the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the largest seaport complex in the nation. More than 40% of the nation's international trade passes through the two ports, prompting fears the complex could be a prime terrorist target.** Despite such fears, federal money has gone elsewhere.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-port23apr23.1.5544060.story?coll=la%2Dheadlines%2Dcalifornia>

8. *April 22, Transportation Security Administration* — **Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO) to require boarding passes at the security checkpoint.** Adm. James M. Loy, Transportation Security Administrator announced on Tuesday that **Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO), Greensboro, NC is joining more than 175 other airports in participating in the Transportation Security Administration's "Selectee Checkpoint" program.** The program enhances security and convenience by transferring the screening of selectees from aircraft boarding gates to security checkpoints where screening equipment and personnel and law enforcement officers are concentrated. At Piedmont Triad International Airport, passengers will have to have their boarding passes in hand before they reach the security checkpoint. **E-ticket receipts, itineraries and vouchers will no longer provide access through the checkpoints, and boarding passes will no longer be issued at the gates.** Boarding passes may be obtained at ticket counters, through airline computer kiosks, or at most sky cap curbside stations. In addition to a boarding pass, passengers must show a valid government issued photo ID, such as a driver's license or passport at the checkpoint.

Source: <http://www.tsa.gov/public/display?theme=44/font>>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

9. *April 23, Reuters* — **Dutch bird flu losses well over EUR 100 million. The Dutch poultry and egg sector has suffered well over 100 million euros (\$109 million) in losses from the bird flu outbreak sweeping through the European Union's biggest poultry exporter, an official said on Wednesday.** It was impossible to pinpoint a figure since the poultry disease was spreading, according to Albert Vernooij, market analyst with the Product Board for Livestock, Meat and Eggs. Around 18 million poultry have been slaughtered as authorities fight to contain the outbreak in the Netherlands, also the world's biggest egg exporter and global fourth in poultry exports. **The 100 million minimum figure was based on a previous estimate that the disease was costing around two million euros per day. "It is now more than two million a day, but we don't know how much more," Vernooij said. Those estimates only include costs to the industry, not the tens of millions of euros spent by the government.** A spokeswoman for the Agricultural Ministry said estimates of costs to fight the outbreak would be available in a few days. Around 150 workers at slaughterhouses have been laid off and many others put on temporary leave of absence, Vernooij said.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L23385194.htm>

10. *April 23, North County Times* — **Farmers' self-protection pact has proved vital.** A set of sanitation practices that was developed by and for the poultry industry were important when they were released in the fall, but with the outbreak of Exotic Newcastle disease, they are proving to be vital, according to one of the farmers who helped developed them. The voluntary measures were drawn up by the Inland Empire Poultryman Association, where Bahan is director of biosecurity. The association is made up of 30 members from several Southern California counties, including San Diego, according to Bahan. **"We have," he said, "established a written 'protocol' for just about everything, segregating egg flats and racks that eggs are moved around on, protocols of biosecurity within a processing plant, proper disinfection of trucks, what to do with your loading equipment, how to deal with feathers."** The association worked with biologists and farm advisers from the University of California Cooperative Extension program.

Source: <http://www.nctimes.net/news/2003/20030423/92810.html>

11. *April 23, Gladwin County Record* — **Michigan makes strides on bovine TB eradication. Michigan moved one step closer on its bovine TB eradication efforts with the recent proposed rule by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to allow the state to split its two separate bovine Tuberculosis (TB) classification zones, according to Michigan Department of Agriculture Director Dan Wyant.** Michigan State Veterinarian Dr. Joan Arnoldi explained that nearly all of Michigan's approximately 15,500 cattle, bison and goat herds in Michigan have been tested at least once, with no disease found outside of the Northern Lower Peninsula. Additionally, herds in the proposed modified accredited advanced zone statewide will continue to be tested under a random selection protocol (900 herds per year) for six years, and herds in the affected area of the modified accredited zones will continue various rigorous testing and movement requirements.

Source: http://www.gladwinmi.com/placed/story/04-23-2003bovine_tb.ht ml

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Food Sector

12. *April 22, Reno Gazette–Journal* — **Food–borne illness' difficult to track. It takes a lot of scientific sleuthing to track down the real culprit during a food–borne illness outbreak, a Reno microbiologist said Tuesday.** And even if the cause is identified, the source may never be found because the food or other source of the contamination is gone, he said. **"The major reason that it's so difficult is there are a number of different kinds of micro–organisms that can produce diarrhea syndrome," said David Lupan, a professor of microbiology at the University of Nevada, Reno.** "Once you've determined the organism that caused it, then you have to track down the source, and that becomes the Sherlock–Holmes part of it," Lupan said. "You take everyone who got sick and look for commonality: Where did they eat? What did they eat and drink, and where did they stay?" Bacteria, parasites and hundreds of different viruses can cause gastrointestinal problems, he said. **Food can be contaminated by a human or animal anytime before or during processing or preparation, said Lupan.**

Source: <http://www.rgj.com/news/stories/html/2003/04/22/40187.php?sp 1=rgjal+News>

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Water Sector

13. *April 23, New York Times* — **McGreevey restricts building near reservoirs and waterways.** Warning that unchecked real estate development has threatened New Jersey's drinking water supply, Gov. James E. McGreevey announced today that the state would impose new regulations that would sharply restrict building near 15 reservoirs, rivers and streams. **The new regulations, which do not require legislative approval, will essentially ban most residential and commercial development within 300 feet of reservoirs. They are similar to restrictions New York State enforces near its sources of drinking water in rural areas upstate.** In densely populated New Jersey, however, many reservoirs abut growing residential communities, and the politically powerful construction industry has managed to block such regulations for decades. As he unveiled the plans today at a news conference on the bank of the Oradell Reservoir in Bergen County, McGreevey said that **the new rules, which New Jersey has previously used only to protect trout streams, would now safeguard the drinking water supply for 40 percent of the state's nine million residents without causing undue hardship to the construction industry.**

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/23/nyregion/23JERS.html>

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Public Health Sector

14. *April 23, New York Times* — **Beijing closes schools as SARS cases rise. With a terse announcement in Wednesday's newspapers, Beijing, China closed all its primary and secondary schools until May 7 at least, and said the 1.7 million affected students should**

study at home, using a newly improvised online educational service. The suspension of classes was the strongest action yet against the new respiratory disease by a city that only days ago admitted it had concealed a spreading epidemic and is now struggling to contain it. Officials have said that the college entrance exam, and others for middle and high schools, may have to be postponed, which would cause major disruptions in family and school planning for next fall. There have been no public reports of children dying from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), but fearful parents in many parts of the city kept their children home on Monday after the revelation over the weekend that the disease had spread in Beijing to a far greater extent than previously announced. **On Monday, reported SARS cases in Beijing rose sharply for a second time in two days, climbing to 588, as the government continued its belated campaign to rebuild public trust.** By Tuesday, a few smaller colleges had shut down, while some students at universities headed to their home provinces to escape the disease. In doing so, they ignored official pleas for students and others to stay put through the coming, shortened May Day holiday.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/23/international/asia/23CHIN.html>

15. *April 22, Associated Press* — **Staph skin infection spreading in Los Angeles County jail. A drug-resistant bacteria continues to infect county jail inmates, spreading a non-deadly staphylococcus skin infection to 325 people so far this year, with 125 infections reported just last month.** A report was made Tuesday to county supervisors by public health staff. "The bottom line is that the situation since August is not getting better," said county public health director Jonathan Fielding. Last year, Fielding said, 920 county inmates were infected with the drug-resistant staph infection. **In a related development, an Antonovich aide said a deputy who works at the Men's Central Jail reported to Antonovich that his newborn was infected with staph bacteria and had to be hospitalized.**

Source: <http://www.bayarea.com/mld/mercurynews/news/local/5692945.htm>

16. *April 22, Reuters* — **U.S. to warn road travelers to Ontario about SARS. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a travel alert for Ontario, where the incurable viral disease has killed 14 people out of the suspected 316 cases across Canada, and sent a team to help Canadian health authorities protect nurses, doctors and technicians from the virus.** CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding told a news conference the alert was not advising against travel but that travelers should be aware of the risk of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and perhaps to avoid hospitals. Americans were being advised, however, to avoid travel to affected parts of Asia such as China, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan. "These travel advisories are saying please avoid nonessential travel," Gerberding said. "We can't exactly predict where cases might be."

Source: http://channels.netscape.com/ns/news/story.jsp?id=2003042220_380002180220

17. *April 22, USA Today* — **Second round of smallpox vaccinations begins. Federal health officials are pressing forward with phase two of the smallpox preparedness program, vaccinating up to 10 million emergency "first responders" and expanding the program significantly by asking states to prepare not just for bioterrorism, but for all forms of terrorism, including chemical, radiological, and conventional weapons.** The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is issuing guidelines as soon as today to urge state health departments and hospitals to widen their medical detection and response activities to include chemical and nuclear events and to set up labs capable of handling and analyzing chemicals that

might be used by terrorists. **The goal is "to enhance the capacity to respond to public health threats posed by terrorist events,"** said Michael Sage, deputy director of the Office of Terrorism Preparedness and Emergency Response at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, part of HHS. But, he warned, "it "won't happen overnight. We're just at the beginning of the preparedness efforts from a national level."

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2003-04-22-smallpox-usat_x.htm

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Government Sector

18. *April 23, New York Times* — New Jersey to make driver's licenses harder to counterfeit.

New Jersey driver's licenses, known as the easiest outside Alaska to counterfeit, will be replaced starting in late July with a digital model that state officials say will be among the most tamper-proof anywhere. **Gov. James E. McGreevey announced plans for the new design on Tuesday, promising that the phase-in could be handled at the notoriously slow offices of the Division of Motor Vehicles. The state has hired a contractor to produce the licenses with equipment at the offices, which will add employees and offer express lanes for people who have completed a preliminary registration online.** The 45 agency offices around the state must check identification documents, like birth certificates, utility bills and Social Security cards, for each driver before issuing replacements.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2003/04/22/nyregion/22LICE.html>

19. *April 23, Federal Computer Week* — Official explains homeland funding. The Homeland Security Department's liaison to state and local governments said the federal government prefers to funnel money to first responders through states because they're in a better position to plan strategically. Nevertheless, he said the department is sensitive to local governments' needs and will try to get some funds to them directly. **During an April 22 Webcast sponsored by the U.S. Conference of Mayors, Josh Filler, DHS' director of state and local government coordination, fielded a number of questions relating to the approximately \$2.23 billion in fiscal 2003 supplemental funds earmarked for first responders. The Justice Department's Office for Domestic Preparedness will administer the funds.** "We are literally, as we speak, going over the numbers and making recommendations how that [money] should be rolled out in the coming weeks ahead," said Filler. In the past year, state and local government officials have complained about the federal government's delay in providing promised funds. **Fearing even further delays, local officials, particularly, have also called for direct funding to cities and counties rather than have the money channeled through the states.**

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/0421/web-mayors-04-23-03.asp>

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Emergency Services Sector

20. *April 23, U.S. Department of Homeland Security* — Homeland Security and DOE deliver refurbished radiological detection equipment. The Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Energy have formally transferred a shipment of refurbished radiological

detection equipment to the Los Angeles Fire Department Hazardous Waste Unit, the Los Angeles Port Authority and the San Francisco Health Department. The equipment is being provided to these emergency responder agencies under a DHS/DOE pilot project called the Homeland Defense Equipment Reuse (HDER) Program. **Los Angeles and San Francisco are the sixth and seventh cities that have received radiological detection equipment through the HDER partnership. Other cities that have received the equipment include Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, New York, Boston and Detroit.**

Source: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/display?content=569>

21. *April 23, Associated Press* — **Wing crack cited in airtanker crash.** An air tanker that erupted in flames and plunged to the ground fighting a Colorado forest fire last year went down because of a crack that started at a half-inch rivet on its left wing and spread, according to a Forest Service investigation. The Forest Service report obtained Tuesday by The Associated Press identified the cause of the Consolidated Volte PB4Y-2 crash as fatigue and failure of the left wing's forward spar, a unit that helps hold the wing to the fuselage. **The plane crashed July 18 while fighting a wildfire in rugged foothills near Rocky Mountain National Park, about 40 miles northwest of Denver. After the crashes, the remaining PB4Ys and the Lockheed C-130As were grounded and this year the Forest Service has not renewed the contracts for either model of plane, believing they pose an unacceptable risk.** Both planes were old – the PB4Y was 57 years old and the C-130A was 44 years – and they had been flown long hours in brutal conditions during last year's severe fire season. The Forest Service report was obtained under the Freedom of Information Act.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A18118-2003Apr 22.html>

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Information and Telecommunications Sector

22. *April 23, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-014: Cumulative Patch for Outlook Express . A vulnerability exists in the MHTML URL Handler that allows any file that can be rendered as text to be opened and rendered as part of a page in Internet Explorer.** As a result, it would be possible to construct a URL that referred to a text file that was stored on the local computer and have that file render as HTML. If the text file contained script, that script would execute when the file was accessed. Since the file would reside on the local computer, it would be rendered in the Local Computer Security Zone. Using this method, an attacker could attempt to construct a URL and either host it on a website or send it via email. **If the cumulative patch for Internet Explorer MS03-004 has been installed, known means by which an attacker may place a file onto a user's computer will be blocked. Microsoft has assigned a risk rating of "Critical" to this vulnerability and a patch is available at the Microsoft website.**

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS03-014.asp>

23. *April 23, Microsoft* — **Microsoft Security Bulletin MS03-015: Cumulative Patch for Internet Explorer.** This cumulative patch eliminates the following four vulnerabilities: 1) A buffer overrun vulnerability in URLMON.DLL; 2) A vulnerability in the Internet Explorer file upload control; 3) A flaw in the way Internet Explorer handles the rendering

of third party files; 4) A flaw in the way modal dialogs are treated by Internet Explorer. In addition, **this patch includes a fix for Internet Explorer 6.0 SP1** that corrects the method by which Internet Explorer displays help information in the local computer zone. **This patch also sets the Kill Bit on the Plugin.ocx ActiveX control** in order to ensure that the vulnerable control cannot be reintroduced onto users' systems and to ensure that users who already have the vulnerable control on their system are protected. Like the previous Internet Explorer cumulative patch released with bulletin MS03-004, **this cumulative patch will cause window.showHelp() to cease to function if you have not applied the HTML Help update.** Microsoft has assigned a risk rating of "Critical" to this vulnerability and a patch is available at the Microsoft website.

Source: <http://www.microsoft.com/technet/treeview/default.asp?url=/technet/security/bulletin/MS03-015.asp>

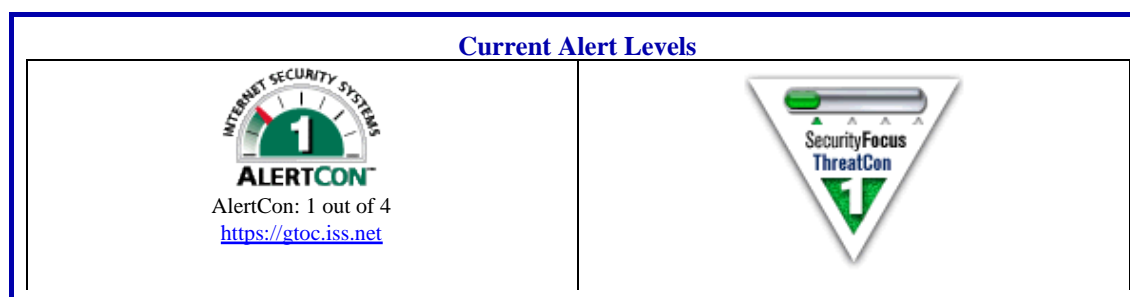
24. *April 23, Government Computer News* — **DHS gets into the cyberwar game. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is simulating cyberattacks and biological assaults to help prepare for the possibility of the real thing**, deputy secretary Gordon England said. "A week ago, I participated in a war game with the Business Roundtable," England told attendees at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Conference on Critical Infrastructure and Homeland Security today. The Business Roundtable is an association of corporate chief executive officers that makes policy recommendations for economic growth. **Part of the war game involved a cyberattack on financial institutions "that sucked money out of the financial system,"** England said. England endorsed the Business Roundtable's approach of periodically reviewing its members' plans for recovery from attacks and urged the Chamber of Commerce to adopt similar plans. In response to a question about the department's approach to regulation, **England said, "I would like the DHS to have as few regulations as possible—our job is to coordinate the work of other federal agencies."**

Source: http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/21855-1.html

25. *April 22, The International News (Pakistan)* — **Pakistan to use hackers against hackers. The ministry of information technology and telecommunications in Karachi, Pakistan, has decided to hire hackers to confront cyber attacks on government websites and silicon networking.** The decision came at a meeting held last week to set up a Working Group for Network Security — one of the steps to counter hackers' moves. The group is composed of ministry officials, intelligence agencies sleuths and representatives from private sector internet service providers (ISPs) and software houses in Pakistan.

Source: <http://www.jang.com.pk/thenews/apr2003-daily/22-04-2003/business/b4.htm>

Internet Alert Dashboard



		Security Focus ThreatCon: 1 out of 4 http://analyzer.securityfocus.com/
Current Virus and Port Attacks		
Virus:	#1 Virus in the United States: WORM_LOVGATE.F Source: http://wtc.trendmicro.com/wtc/wmap.html , Trend World Micro Virus Tracking Center [Infected Computers, North America, Past 24 hours, #1 in United States]	
Top 10 Target Ports	137 (netbios–ns), 80 (www), 1434 (ms–sql–m), 25 (smtp), 445 (microsoft–ds), 113 (ident), 139 (netbios–ssn), 6346 (gnutella–svc), 6257 (WinMX), 4662 (eDonkey2000) Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center	

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General Sector

26. April 23, Washington Post — Indonesia arrests 17 militants. The national police have arrested at least 17 members of the al Qaeda–linked Islamic militant group Jemaah Islamiah, including the leader of a cell that operates in the southern Philippines and northern Indonesia, police sources said on Tuesday. **At least three members were said to be linked to the Oct. 12 bombings in Bali that killed 202 people. The leader of the Mantiqi 3 cell is Nasir Abas, a Malaysian citizen who was arrested outside Jakarta last week. Most of the arrests were made in recent days, primarily outside the main Indonesian island of Java, and could provide an important breakthrough in this country's efforts to crack down on terrorism, police and analysts said.** The Bali bombing firmed the government's resolve to go after Islamic militants, a politically risky strategy in a country where more than 80 percent of the 220 million people are Muslim. Now, analysts note, not only is the government trying for treason Abubakar Baasyir, the spiritual leader of Jemaah Islamiah, but it is also showing, with the arrests, that it has the political will to fight terrorism.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A19585–2003Apr 23.html>

27. April 23, Associated Press — Study: Bay Area likely to be hit by big quake. A federal study released Tuesday slightly reduced the chance that the San Francisco Bay area will be hit by a major earthquake in the next 30 years, but still put the probability at better than 50%. **The study, commissioned by the U.S. Geological Survey, set the probability of such a quake at 62%. The last time the survey was conducted, in 1999, the estimate was 70%. A major quake has a magnitude of 6.7 or greater. David Schwartz, the study's co–author, noted that area residents face a greater chance of experiencing a significant quake than being affected by such well–publicized threats as anthrax.** "The things we face every day – when we turn on the TV, or read the newspaper – in many ways will never touch us," Schwartz, head of the USGS San Francisco Bay Area Earthquake Hazards project. "But living in this region, earthquakes will affect us. Earthquakes are going to happen."

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2003–04–22–earthquakes_x.htm

28. April 23, Washington Post — No terror charges in suspect's plea. A Chechen native who had been jailed for more than nine months as a terrorism suspect has pleaded guilty in Detroit to possessing \$12 million worth of counterfeit cashier's checks. **But the plea agreement reached Monday for Omar Shishani, 48, of Dearborn, Mich., contains none of the government's**

original allegations that he had links to the al Qaeda terrorist network. "He is not a terrorist," said Shishani's attorney, Corbett O'Meara. "It is symptomatic of our nation's hysteria that he was ever branded a terrorist. This was garden-variety financial fraud." **Shishani was arrested July 17 at Detroit Metropolitan Airport after arriving on a flight from Indonesia and was charged with bringing fake checks into the country. The implication by prosecutors in court papers that Shishani was associated with terrorists led U.S. District Judge Nancy G. Edmunds to deny him bail last summer.**

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A17774-2003Apr 22.html>

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DHS/IAIP Products & Contact Information

The Department of Homeland Security's Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) serves as a national critical infrastructure threat assessment, warning, vulnerability entity. The IAIP provides a range of bulletins and advisories of interest to information system security and professionals and those involved in protecting public and private infrastructures. By visiting the IAIP web-site (<http://www.nipc.gov>), one can quickly access any of the following DHS/IAIP products:

[DHS/IAIP Warnings](#) – DHS/IAIP Assessments, Advisories, and Alerts: DHS/IAIP produces three levels of infrastructure warnings. Collectively, these threat warning products will be based on material that is significant, credible, timely, and that address cyber and/or infrastructure dimensions with possibly significant impact.

[DHS/IAIP Publications](#) – DHS/IAIP Daily Reports, CyberNotes, Information Bulletins, and other publications

[DHS/IAIP Daily Reports Archive](#) – Access past DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Reports

DHS/IAIP Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

Content and Suggestions: nipcdailyadmin@mail.nipc.osis.gov or contact the DHS/IAIP Daily Report Team at 202-324-1129

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